

The Red Lion

The Confection of the Philosopher's Stone

By Joe Lello

WARNING: This is *NOT* an operation for beginners or even amateurs with minimal experience. If you have never melted a pot of boiling lead, or cast pot-metal, do not attempt this procedure. All of the materials are highly toxic and the distillation procedures are deadly dangerous to perform. Many highly skilled people have died attempting to complete this Work over the past five or six centuries.

This document is an addendum to Robert Cox's ground shaking new book, *"The Elixir of Immortality: A Modern-Day Alchemists Discovery of the Philosophers Stone."* The text may be purchased at Amazon.com at this URL:

http://www.amazon.com/Elixir-Immortality-Modern-Day-Alchemists-Philosophers/dp/1594773033/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1254257270&sr=1-1

This is without a doubt the very best book on alchemy I have found in over 10 years of reading and research. If you aspire to confection The Stone and have not read it, please stop now and do so. If you have already read it, then you know it presents much important information but lacks a few critically important details, which I intend to provide here as well as giving you a hands-on guide to actually performing this Work, step-by-step. For this operation, you will need four main ingredients:

- 3 pounds of triple-distilled Mercury (Hg)
- 3 pounds of Bismuth pellets (Bi)
- 3 pounds of Antimony "shot" (Sb)
- ½ ounce 99.9999% pure Gold metal

A good source for Mercury with a minimum of hassle is <http://www.sciencelab.com> . The current price is about \$135 lb.

A good source for Bismuth chunks and Antimony pellets is <http://www.consolidated-chemical.com/> at \$10 and \$12 lb., respectively.

The Queen (Lunar Phase)

Begin by breaking up the bismuth pellets into fine granules. This is best done by placing a handful inside an old dishrag, setting it on a hard surface like concrete and whacking the daylights out of it with a hammer. Bi is a very brittle metal and shatters easily, much like ceramic pottery. You can also crush the pellets with a heavy pair of pliers like vise-grips. Crush them to a powder fine enough to pass through a coarse strainer with mesh slightly larger than window screening.

Pour about 1 lb. of Hg into your mortar and pestle and sprinkle in about a spoonful or two of the powdered Bi. Let it steep for 15 minutes or so. The Hg will act upon the Bi and soften it up, making the grinding much easier. Place the mortar under a constantly trickling stream of water. An outdoor sink is good for this. Let the mortar fill to the brim and gently overflow. As you begin to grind the two materials together, a grayish-black “filth” or “feces” evolves that will be washed away by the water. Keep grinding and rinsing until no more filth comes out then add another spoonful of Bi powder and repeat as before.

Continue adding, grinding and washing until you have a sparkling clean, silvery amalgam the consistency of cookie dough. Place this into a tightly sealed glass jar and let the materials commingle and digest together undisturbed for about 2 weeks. You can use this time to locate and order or assemble a retort or distilling flask that you will need in the next step – which is a distillation.

You can use a retort made of either cast iron or high-temperature quartz glass to distill the Hg out of the amalgam. Ordinary glass, even borosilicate glass will not serve here because they melt at lower temperatures than we will be working with. Fig. 1 illustrates a retort of the preferred configuration although it is not made of quartz glass.

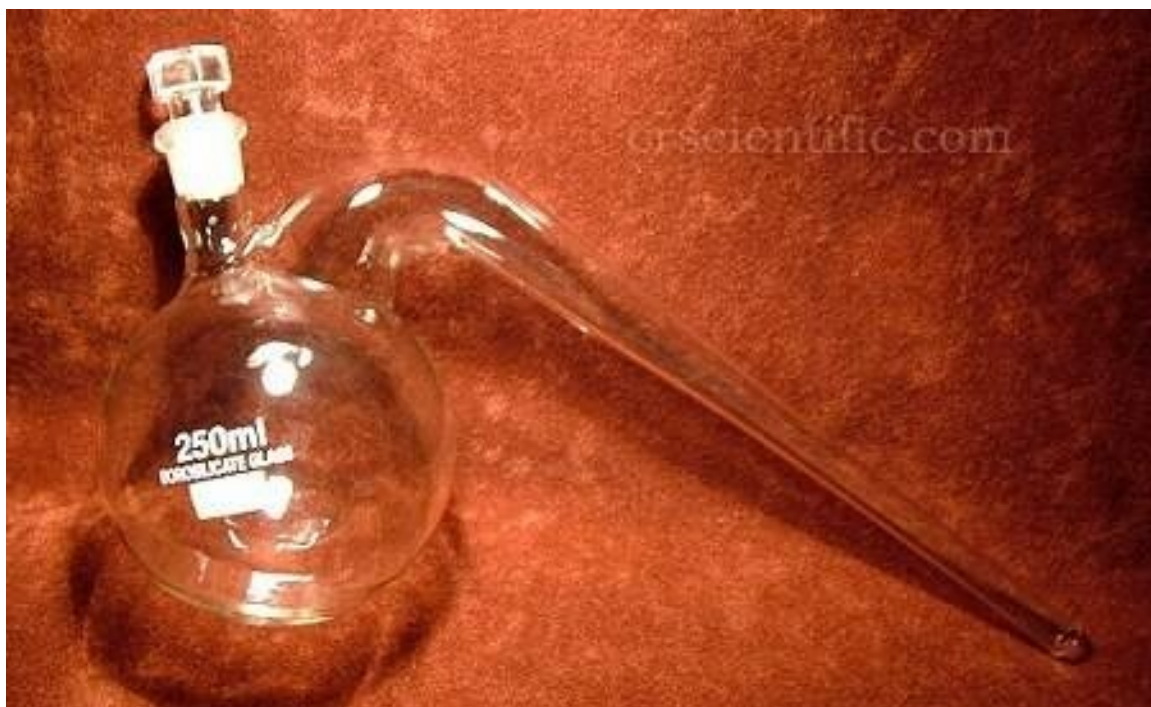


Figure 1



Figure 2

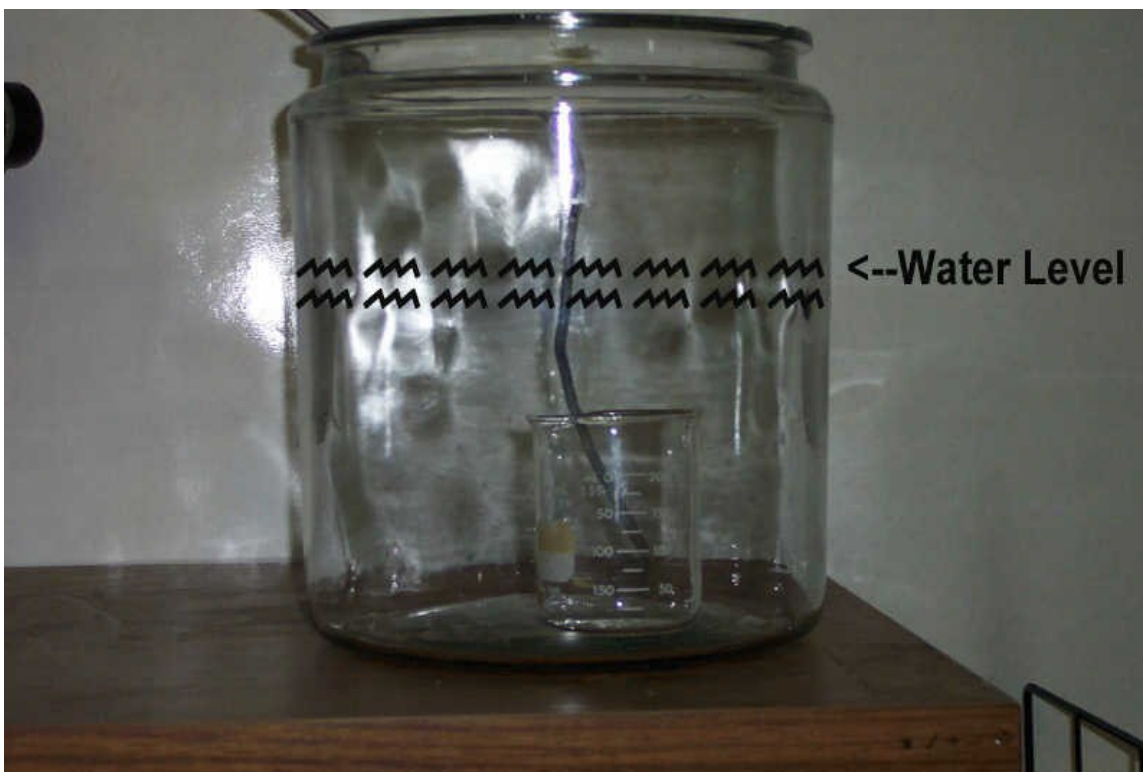


Figure 3

If you cannot locate or afford a retort made of quartz, plain black iron pipe fittings are also usable - (See Fig. 2 above) - however, quartz is highly superior since it does not rust, nor does it have the many threaded joints of the iron device that are prone to leakage of toxic hot Hg vapor. Another plus for quartz is that you can also see what's going on inside as the distillation proceeds.

If you opt for the iron retort, make sure all of your fittings are plain, un-plated "black iron pipe" and not are zinc galvanized. The smaller adapter bushings can be made of stainless steel, but try to get everything in black iron. Seal all threaded joints with PTFE Teflon thread tape. *Do not use any other adhesives or sealants.* Before assembling your retort, thoroughly degrease and clean all parts with a brief bath in diluted 20% HCl, about 50 ml of acid to two gallons of water. Neutralize the solution with baking soda afterwards and rinse parts thoroughly in hot water. If you can obtain some phosphoric acid, it will be better yet, since it will serve as a rust-remover and inhibitor as well as a good cleaning agent.

Put all of your amalgam "cookie dough" into the retort and heat to approximately 750F over a large propane burner (Hg boils at 636F).

The condenser tube must terminate at least 6 inches under water. I recommend placing a small 250 – 300 ml beaker inside a larger (8L – 10L) glass vessel, positioned directly beneath the condenser tube (See Fig. 3 above) to catch the droplets of Hg as they “fly over.” Use cold distilled water, and be sure you can quickly and easily remove the tubing from the water as soon as you stop the heating, so that no water is sucked back up into the hot retort, or there is a risk of causing a steam-pressure explosion. After you distill the Hg out of the Bi amalgam, you can discard the Bi. With the quartz retort, you will have to re-melt it and pour it out of the retort.

Distill the Hg two or three times to get it nice and clean, then pour it into a large (2L) flask that has a broad neck so there is plenty of surface area, and seal the flask with a tapered glass plug. Place it into an oven at around 330C (about 635F) for approximately 3 days, until you see a green, moss-like “growth” form on the surface of the Hg. This is the Tree of Hermes or the Green Lion – “...*which none but the eyes of a true philosopher hath seen.*” If these “flowers” begin to turn yellowish or even orange, reduce the heat so that you do not burn them.

Once the greenish growth occurs it must be “harvested.” Remove the flask from the oven, handling it very carefully so as not to damage the “flowers” or “trees.” Let the Hg cool to room temperature whereupon the green color of the growth will fade to gray. Very carefully remove the growths as best you can using a small nylon sieve, or a piece of plastic screening - whatever you can procure, so long as it is non-metallic. This formerly green “growth” must be ground up in a mortar & pestle and the “sap” at its center collected. This material, the “blood of the Green Lion,” is the true, *animated Philosophical Mercury of the Sages* (hereinafter referred to as “PM”). When you have collected as much as you can get, place it into a tightly capped bottle or sealed flask and store it in a cool, humid place. This concludes the Lunar Phase of The Work.



The King (Solar Phase)

Place about 4 ounces of Sb shot into a covered porcelain crucible large enough so that it is filled only halfway. Place the crucible into your oven and heat to 750F. This must be done OUTDOORS in a well-ventilated area. Remove the cover from the crucible briefly and add a half-ounce of pure 24K Au metal. It will immediately melt like butter into the hot liquefied Sb.

Replace the cover and continue heating at 750F for at least 48 hrs. then turn off the heat and allow the crucible to cool down slowly. The Au will have been broken down into micro-clusters, some of which are in groups of less than nine atoms. Many of these micro-clusters will actually disaggregate and dissociate into ORME Cooper pairs, a.k.a. M-state, or Bose-Einstein Condensate.

When cooled to room temperature, you will find a brittle cake in the crucible that must be removed and pulverized into a powder just as you did with the Bi pellets in the first section. Place another pound of Hg into your mortar & pestle – *[Note: use fresh, triple-distilled Hg, NOT the PM you just made]*. Add a tbsp. or so of the ground-up Sb powder and let it steep for about 15 minutes.

Although the Sb (known as The Wolf by the ancients) will devour and finely divide the Au metal, it will not amalgamate with it. The two metals simply remain a physical mixture, easily separated. When we add Hg to the mix, the finely divided Au homogenously amalgamates with the Hg, but does not adhere to the Sb at all. This means that the Sb may be easily separated out by simply grinding and washing.

Place the mortar into the sink and again let a small stream of water fill and overflow the mortar and begin grinding the powder into the Hg as before. Once again, a filth or blackness will evolve from the mixture that must be washed away, only this time the blackness is the Sb being separated and removed from the physical mixture, leaving behind only the finely divided Au amalgamated together with the Hg.

When you have ground and washed away all of the powder and no more blackness evolves, place the Au / Hg amalgam into your retort and distill off the Hg as before. Keep this Hg completely separate from the first batch of PM that you made. Most of the

finely divided Au will remain behind in the bottom of the retort as a dry brittle cake, but the super-fine Au micro-clusters in ORME configuration will fly over with the Hg and seed it with “the body” or “the sulfur” of Au.

This operation was called by the ancients “Flying an Eagle,” and it must be repeated at least 9 times. Each time you Fly an Eagle, you place the now slightly smaller leftover cake of Au into a fresh quantity of Sb, but when you add in the Hg – use the same Hg that you distilled over from the first Eagle. In this manner, each time you distill it, a little more “seed” of Au will fly over and be imbued into the Hg, until it becomes saturated with Au ORME.

When you have completed 9 or 10 Eagles, place the Au seeded Hg into a large flask, seal it well and place it into the oven at 330C (635F) as before. Observe it periodically, and after a few days either a red or a white powder should begin to emerge and float atop the pool of Hg. Agitate it occasionally and continue heating until no more powder evolves.

This powder must be collected by allowing the Hg to cool to room temperature and then pouring it into a crystallizing dish. The red or white powder that is floating on the surface of the Hg may then be carefully scraped off with a feather quill and placed into a small glass vial. This powder is pure ORME Au, and was referred to as “*Philosophical Gold*” or “*Our Gold*” by the ancients. We have now concluded the Solar Phase of The Great Work.

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The Alchemical Wedding

You are now ready to perform the final phase of The Great Work, the marriage of the Sun & Moon, or the mixture of the Philosophical Gold with the Philosophical Mercury. This mixture, when combined, is

known as “The Rebis,” a word that literally means “a mixture of two dissimilar things.” They are very difficult to combine, and once they are combined, they have a tendency to separate again very quickly. It is therefore important to have everything prepared in advance and ready to go so that you can immediately place the Rebis into “the Egg” and place the Egg into the oven.

The Egg should be a tightly sealed very thick-walled quartz flask that is either round-bottomed or slightly elongated (egg-shaped) with a long neck so that a “circulation” process may proceed within it – this will be further explained a bit later. The ratio of PG to PM for the Rebis should be somewhere between 1:1 and 2:1, (Au:Hg). The two materials can be persuaded to combine by either grinding them together in a mortar & pestle, or shaking them together vigorously in a long, slender covered jar. Either process will be lengthy and arduous, but eventually they will grudgingly form a marginal sort of colloidal suspension.

Combining the two parts should be the very last thing you do, so that you may immediately place the Rebis into the oven. A sand bath placed inside a gas-fired ceramics kiln makes a good set-up. Once you begin heating the Rebis, the heat must not be interrupted for the duration of the procedure, not even for 5 minutes or the process will fail and all will be lost. For this reason, gas heat is infinitely preferable to an electric oven, since there would be little chance of the heat being interrupted for example, by a temporary power outage. A sand bath holds heat well and cools very slowly, thereby providing a reliable safety buffer should it be necessary to change out an empty gas canister.

Incubation

Maintain the temperature at right around 330C (636F), and other than periodic observation it should not be necessary to lay hands upon the egg again until the entire process is completed. Carefully regulate the heat so that a steady, even circulation occurs within the Egg. Think of it as a process similar to the circulation by which rain occurs

in nature. The hot vapor of the “animated” PM should evaporate up into the neck of the egg where it will condense back into a liquid upon the cooler surfaces, and then “rain down” to seep back into the “seeded earth” below. Too much heat will tend to dry out the “earth” in the bottom of the flask and create excessive “moisture” clinging to the walls inside the neck. Too little heat and the earth will appear “flooded,” with very little condensation visible in the neck.

Now begins a series of color changes known throughout alchemical history as “the Peacock’s Tail.” At first not much will appear to be going on inside the egg, but toward the end of about 40 days the material will gradually begin to dry up, turn a bluish-black and putrefy, and a dark vapor – known as “the Dragon’s Breath” – will proceed forth and fill the Egg. This first sign that things are proceeding as they should is known as “the Raven’s Head.”

At somewhere around five months you will next observe a white crescent that appears around the inside perimeter of the Egg along the surface of the earth. Eventually the entire mass will all turn to a pure snow-white powder. At this point, it is no longer toxic and has become the “White Stone” or “Medicine of the First Order.” Later on, it will gradually begin to liquefy again and turn a light translucent greenish hue, the color of new plant seedlings. After seven and a half months, it will turn to a citrine color, then yellow, then amber. Finally, at somewhere between nine and ten months, the amber color gives way to a purplish-violet and then quickly proceeds to a deep vermillion red, the color of coagulated blood. This sign marks the end of the first incubation – but we are not quite done yet.

Multiplication

We must perform at least one more operation to obtain the fully matured Philosopher’s Stone, and that is called a multiplication. Multiplication not only increases the amount of the Stone you possess, but it also increases the potency of the material by a factor of ten. Each time you multiply the Stone, its power to heal the body and the quantity of base metal it can perfect (transmute) is increased ten times over. However the Stone may only be multiplied a

maximum of nine times – any further multiplication would result in a material so potent and so subtle that it can no longer be contained and it will escape right through the walls of the Egg and be lost.

Remove the material from the Egg, and separate the bright red powder from the dross. Using only the red powder and a fresh quantity of PM, make up another Rebis, place it within the Egg, and incubate it. The operation will proceed as before, only the time between phases of the Peacock's Tail will be greatly lessened and the entire process should only take about 28 days. The Stone is now complete and "fixed in the fire" meaning that if heated in a spoon it should not scorch or burn, merely flow like wax and then re-harden.

NOTE: The once– or twice–multiplied mature Red Stone is a dangerously potent restorative medicine. It must never be ingested full strength.

To dilute the Stone to a safe level for consumption, take up the tiniest grain of the material with a needle point and drop it into a pint of white wine. The wine will be dyed a deep red color. Take an eyedropper and place a drop of this reddened wine into another pint of white wine and it will turn a lighter shade of red. Continue in this manner until the wine turns a golden hue; this is the true "Potable Gold" and is now sufficiently diluted to the point where 1 or 2 DROPS of it may be consumed. No person should *ever take* more than 7 drops of this material at once. An average dose is 1 or 2 drops twice per year.

